

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

JOAN TRUMAN SMITH

v.

BRYCO ARMS, Inc., et al.

CIVIL ACTION NO:  
CV 02 3029 (JBW)

Honorable Jack B. Weinstein

**DEFENDANT, BRYCO ARMS, INC.'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT AS  
TO THE FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION – NEGLIGENCE**

Defendant, Bryco Arms, Inc. ("Bryco"), by and through its undersigned attorneys, hereby files the following Answer to the Complaint as to the First Cause of Action – Negligence.

**PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

With the exception of select allegations in the Complaint, the allegations of the Complaint refer to "Defendants" without specificity. Bryco is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations concerning other defendants. Bryco answers the Complaint for itself only.

**FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION – NEGLIGENCE**

30. Answering paragraph thirty (30) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
31. Answering paragraph thirty-one (31) of the Complaint, the Defendant admits that Janice Jennings is the President of Bryco Arms, Inc but denies all of the remaining allegations set forth in paragraph thirty-one (31).
32. Answering paragraph thirty-two (32) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
33. Answering paragraph thirty-three (33) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

34. Answering paragraph thirty-four (34) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
35. Answering paragraph thirty-five (35) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
36. Answering paragraph thirty-six (36) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
37. Answering paragraph thirty-seven (37) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
38. Answering paragraph thirty-eight (38) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
39. Answering paragraph thirty-nine (39) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
40. Answering paragraph forty (40) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
41. Answering paragraph forty-one (41) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
42. Answering paragraph forty-two (42) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
43. Answering paragraph forty-three (43) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
44. Answering paragraph forty-four (44) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph forty-four (44) and all subparts thereof.

45. Answering paragraph forty-five (45) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
46. Answering paragraph forty-six (46) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
47. Answering paragraph forty-seven (47) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
48. Answering paragraph forty-eight (48) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
49. Answering paragraph forty-nine (49) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
50. Answering paragraph fifty (50) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
51. Answering paragraph fifty-one (51) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
52. Answering paragraph fifty-two (52) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
53. Answering paragraph fifty-three (53) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
54. Answering paragraph fifty-four (54) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
55. Answering paragraph fifty-five (55) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.

56. Answering paragraph fifty-six (56) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
57. Answering paragraph fifty-seven (57) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
58. Answering paragraph fifty-eight (58) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
59. Answering paragraph fifty-nine (59) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
60. Answering paragraph sixty (60) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein regarding Bruce Jennings and "The Jennings Firearm Defendants", however, it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein regarding AcuSport.
61. Answering paragraph sixty-one (61) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein regarding Bruce Jennings and "The Jennings Firearm Defendants", however, it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein regarding AcuSport.
62. Answering paragraph sixty-two (62) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.

63. Answering paragraph sixty-three (63) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
64. Answering paragraph sixty-four (64) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
65. Answering paragraph sixty-five (65) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
66. Answering paragraph sixty-six (66) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
67. Answering paragraph sixty-seven (67) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
68. Answering paragraph sixty-eight (68) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
69. Answering paragraph sixty-nine (69) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.

70. Answering paragraph seventy (70) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
71. Answering paragraph seventy-one (71) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
72. Answering paragraph seventy-two (72) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
73. Answering paragraph seventy-three (73) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
74. Answering paragraph seventy-four (74) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
75. Answering paragraph seventy-five (75) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
76. Answering paragraph seventy-six (76) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.

77. Answering paragraph seventy-seven (77) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.
78. Answering paragraph seventy-eight (78) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
79. Answering paragraph seventy-nine (79) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
80. Answering paragraph eighty (80) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
81. Answering paragraph eighty-one (81) of the Complaint, the Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
82. Answering paragraph eighty-two (82) of the Complaint, the Defendant states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein.

**FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Defendant, Bryco generally denies all liability to the Plaintiff as alleged in the Complaint.

**SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

To the extent that the Plaintiff has sustained any injuries or damages, it is as a result of the intervening acts or omissions of others and not as a result of any acts or omissions on the part of Bryco.

**THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

To the extent it seeks to impose liability for the manufacture and lawful sale of a legal, non-defective product, the Complaint violates the Commerce Clause of the United States Constitution, the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, and applicable provisions of the New York Constitution.

**FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Some or all of the claims in the Complaint seek to regulate conduct beyond the boundaries of the City of New York. The Plaintiff lacks the authority to bring such claims, and such claims violate core principles of federalism and preemption, the Commerce and Import/Export Clauses of the United States Constitution, and the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

**FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Some or all of the claims in the Complaint are preempted or violate separation of powers principles under the United States Constitution and the New York Constitution.

**SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Some or all of the claims in the Complaint fail because Bryco has manufactured and sold lawful, non-defective products in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws.

**SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

To the extent that it seeks exemplary or punitive damages, the Complaint violates the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and applicable provisions of the New York Constitution.

**EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Plaintiff has failed to join all necessary and/or indispensable parties to this action.

**NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Some or all of the claims in the Complaint result from the misuse or use contrary to the intended use of products manufactured by Bryco.

**TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in part by her voluntary assumption of known risks.

**ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Any injuries and/or damages sustained by the Plaintiff were caused, in whole or in part, by her own fault, and any recovery by the Plaintiff is barred or, alternatively, should be diminished according to her fault.

**TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Plaintiff's claims for costs allegedly incurred as a result of gun violence are barred by the economic loss doctrine.

**THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Some or all of the relief claimed by the Plaintiff is barred by set-off or her failure to mitigate damages.

**WHEREFORE**, Defendant, Bryco Arms, Inc. demands the dismissal of the Plaintiff's Complaint and judgment in its favor with its costs and reasonable attorneys' fees paid by Plaintiff.

Dated: New York, New York  
February 25, 2003

Robert E. Scott, Jr., Esq.

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Attorneys for Defendant, Bryco Arms, Inc.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003, a copy of the foregoing Defendant, Bryco Arms, Inc.'s Answer to the Complaint as to the Second Cause of Action - Public Nuisance was electronically served on Elisa Barnes, 111 Broadway, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York City, New York 10006, Attorney for Plaintiff, and served electronically to All Counsel of Record on the attached Service List.

Robert E. Scott, Jr., Esq.  
Robert E. Scott, Jr. (RES9592)